



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, on May 21, 1881, the USTA, originally known as the United States National Lawn Tennis Association, was founded in New York City, New York, to create rules and standards for the emerging game of lawn tennis; and*

*WHEREAS, the USTA is the nonprofit, national governing body for tennis in the United States, and it leads the promotion and growth of the sport at every level of play, from beginners to professionals at the U.S. Open; and*

*WHEREAS, the USTA is the largest tennis organization in the world, with over 550,000 members from every corner of the country; and*

*WHEREAS, the USTA proudly partners with local tennis programs to showcase the important health, social and educational benefits of tennis and make the sport available to everyone, regardless of age, environment, condition or ability through its grants; and*

*WHEREAS, the latest research by the Physical Activity Council (PAC) shows that more than 23.6 million Americans played tennis in 2022, which is an unprecedented 33 percent increase in participation over 2019. This is the highest number of players since the PAC study began in 2007; and*

*WHEREAS, by increasing the accessibility of tennis for citizens of Alabama of all ages and ability, the USTA has contributed to making our communities happier and healthier; and*

*WHEREAS, National Tennis Month encourages players, organizations, facilities, retailers, tennis manufacturers and others to promote local programs and activities to showcase tennis and spread the word about the sport and its benefits;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 2024, as*

# *National Tennis Month*

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*